Title: Requests the Central Government to implement the gauge conversion project of the railway line of Eastern Railway, Sealdah Division.

DR. ASIM BALA (NABADWIP): Sir, the Shantipur -- Nabadwip, a 28 km narrow gauge railway line of the Eastern Railway of the Sealdah Division is being neglected since long. This stretch of railway line requires conversion from the narrow gauge to the broad gauge. Estimate and survey for this line have been done in 1993. But even after the lapse of almost six years, the conversion of this stretch of railway line has not taken place.

Sir, Nabadwip is an international pilgrimage centre. It is the holy land of the Lord Gauranga Mahaprabhu.

It is his birth place. Mayapur is an international tourist place and ISKCON is very famous in our country also. Thousands of people travel everyday on this narrow gauge line. I request the Government, especially the Ministry of Railways, to implement the project of gauge conversion from narrow gauge to broad gauge for which an estimate of Rs.35 crore is already made. This is a very important project.